

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:148

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2015

Use of Solar Energy in Railways

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of solar energy generated/likely to be generated by the Railways through the solar panels installed/likely to be installed on Railway land by the year 2020 across the country, zone-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study on the revenue earning/loss on account of using Railway land for installation of solar panels instead of using it for commercial purposes, if so, the details and outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total vacant land of the railways being used for commercial purposes along with the revenue generated therefrom, so far, across the country, zone-wise;
- (d) the total number of commercial projects on railway land completed and revenue generated therefrom so far along with the number of such projects still under construction and under litigation; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the construction of such projects and to bring such projects out of litigation?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

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(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION No. 148 BY SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB AND SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.12.2015 REGARDING USE OF SOLAR ENERGY IN RAILWAYS

(a) So far, about 10.5 Mega Watt Peak (MWp) capacity of solar plants have been installed at various railway premises. Out of this a solar plant of 2 MWp is installed on land in Rail Coach Factory, Raebareilly. In addition, a purchase order for installing 6.5 MWp solar power plants on roof top & various railway buildings has been issued. Further, a policy to harness 50 MWp of solar energy on roof top spaces of Railway premises through developer mode has been issued on 18.11.2015. Indian Railways have also proposed to set up 1000 MWp solar plants on railway/private land and roof top spaces of railway buildings in next five years (2020).

(b) Ministry of Railways have not conducted any study on the revenue earning/loss on account of using Railway land for installation of solar panels instead of using it for commercial purposes as both these activities are not comparable.

(c) to (e) Presently, 60 sites measuring about 590 hectare have been entrusted to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for commercial development. No site has been developed so far. Out of 60 sites RLDA has earned 1190 crore from commercial development of land of 3 projects, which are under litigation. Zone-wise earnings from commercial development of land by RLDA from these 3 projects are as under:

S.N. Railway Amount Area

(in crores) (in hectare)

1. East Central Railway 3.60 0.58

2. Northern Railway 1170.88 15.27

3. South Western Railway 15.41 1.01

Developer for other sites has not been fixed, however, consultants have been appointed for valuation of 8 sites. To expedite the construction of such projects and to bring these projects out of litigation, RLDA is examining the development agreement conditions keeping in view the concerns of various stakeholders and holding discussions with Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to explore the feasibility of incentivising ULBs to expedite change of land use and other activities related to commercial development of Railway land.
